Shared
Micromobility
Pilot
Six Month Update

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Purpose of Pilot Project

- Bike Share Goals:
 - Financially sustainable, minimal reliance on general fund
 - Accessible for all residents, regardless of race, ethnicity, income, age, or ability
 - Improve the reach and utility of public transporation
 - Increase access and enhance mobility
 - Foster "park once" behaviors
 - Enable increased physical activity
- Pilot Outcome: Better understand viability, pros and cons of different systems, and determine parameters and policies needed to sustain a long-term shared micromobility system in Grand Rapids.



Overview

- City partnership with a private vendor
- 12 square mile pilot service area
- 176 Designated Parking Zones expanding in coming months
- SPIN started service with stand-up scooters on September 30, 2020
- Previously-selected 2nd vendor delayed due to COVID, and then changed ownership
- Recently selected Lime as the new 2nd vendor who will provide stand-up scooters and e-assist bicycles.



Organizational Structure



- Bike Share Feasibility Study recommended a publicly owned, non-profit operated system.
 - \$300,000 in overhead startup costs + \$3,800/vehicle initial capital.
 - \$2,400/vehicle/year operating and maintenance.
 - Long-term revenue estimates only covered 80% of costs.
- Currently using a hybrid system.
 - City owns fixed infrastructure and manages private vendor operations.
 - No, or little, financial risk to City.
 - City can capitalize on public input opportunities.
 - City can promote equity initiatives.

Pilot Evaluation

- Safety reported crashes, perceived safety issues, helmet access, etc.
- Operations vehicle availability, parking, ADA accessibility, responsiveness
- Ridership overall use, use by various demographics – anonymized data
- Customer Service and Maintenance
 quality, responsiveness
- Contract Compliance

- Communications
- Cost effectiveness user costs and success of payment options/ programs
- Equity analysis availability of vehicles where needed, access barriers, workforce equity
- Feedback from service users and nonusers
- Feedback from internal City departments, community stakeholders



Pilot Feedback

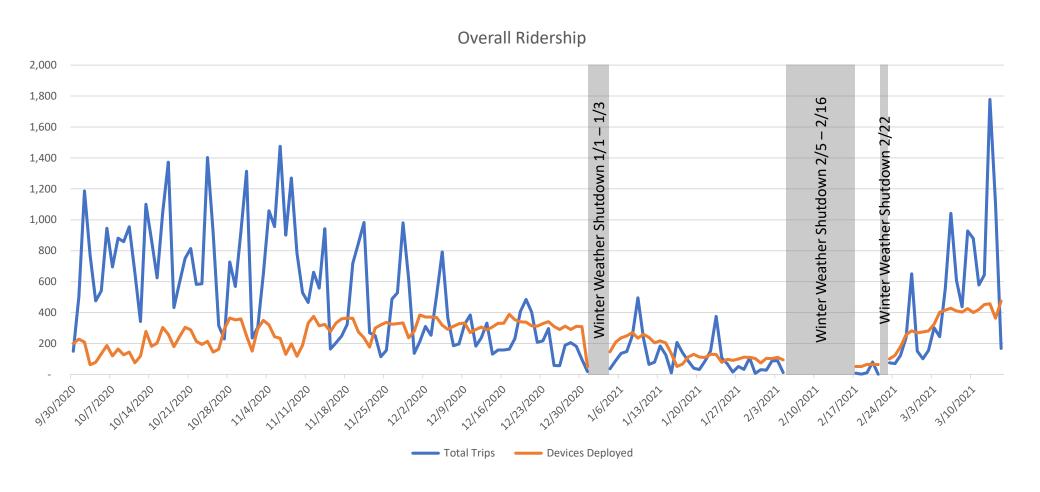
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- Mobile GR staff presented to DGRI, Neighborhood Associations, CIAs/BIDs.
- Survey for service users and non-users currently active
 - Online or via 311
 - English and Spanish
- Positive and negative feedback via Mobile GR Zendesk tickets
- Developing online tool for Designated Parking Zone location feedback and input
- SPIN User Ratings



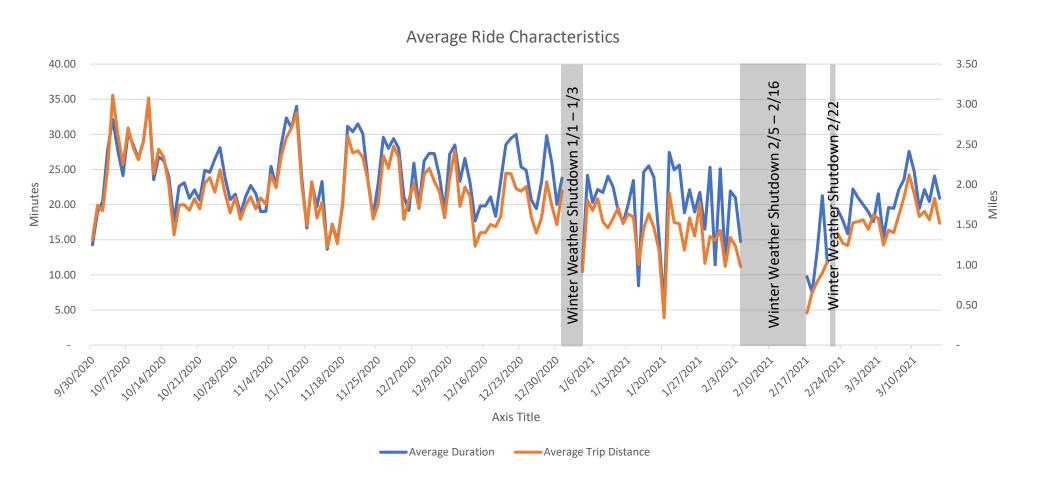
Ridership Data





Ride Characteristics





Benefits



- Eco-friendly alternative that reduces carbon footprint and singleuser vehicular traffic.
- Positive placemaking promotes multi-modal streets rather than vehicle-centric streets.
- Increased activation more engagement with street-side businesses, restaurants, and amenities.
- Visitor Experience a safe and easy option to see and move around the City.
- Economic benefits increased draw for conferences, concerts, and other large events.
- A safe, socially-distant, single-user mobility option during COVID-19.

Challenges

- Improper parking
- Sidewalk riding
- 2-person riding
- Underage riding
- Need for additional parking zones
- Fleet rebalancing







Equity and Affordability

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SPIN Community Pass

- City subsidized program to provide initial experience of program to various community groups.
- Provides 3 month passes with 5 x 30 minute rides daily, 130 passes to:
 - Baxter Community Center
 - Hispanic Center of Western Michigan
 - NAACP Grand Rapids
 - Urban League of West Michigan
 - West Michigan Works!

SPIN Access

- 50% discounted rates for those who qualify
- Options for those without smartphone access or credit cards and bank accounts.



Pilot Costs To Date

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- Total Budget: \$400,000
- Designated Parking Zone infrastructure: \$33,500
- SPIN Community Pass: \$81,000
- Future potential costs: Infrastructure build-out and improvements, promotional and educational programs and events, continued equity programs, operating stipends to keep pricing affordable



Next Steps

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- April 2021 Interim pilot report/feedback to SPIN
- ~ May/June 2021 2nd vendor in service
- Summer 2021 RFI for universal docking/charging stations
- Dec 2021 Finalize pilot vendor operations
- Early spring 2022 Conclude evaluation of pilot, publish report
- May 2022 Pilot ends, present long-term contract for City Commission approval

